

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 07899 091657Z

70

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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R 091606Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8892

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

USINT BAGHDAD

S E C R E T BEIRUT 7899

EXDIS

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, XF

SUBJECT: ARAB DEFENSE COUNCIL MEETING

REF: BEIRUT 7889

1. SINCE PEPARING REFTEL I CALLED ON MINDEF MAALOUF, WHO DISCUSSED CAIRO ADC MEETING FOR OVER AN HOUR. WHILE SOMEWHAT MORE RESERVED IN HIS JUDGMENTS, HE CONFIRMED SUBSTANCE OF DIB'S ACCOUNT OF CAIRO CONFERENCE. RE PAPA 6 REFTEL, I.E. "SECRET RESOLUTIONS", HE INDICATED THAT THE THIRD RESOLUTION (SUB-PARA C) WAS BY FAR THE MOST DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE, IN THAT FIRST TWO CLAUSES (SUB-PARAS A AND B) WERE AGREED TO WITH A MINIMUM OF DISCUSSION ON THE MORNING OF JULY 4. COUNCIL THEN DISCUSSED AID TO THE PLO AND LEBANON FOUND ITSELF ALONE AND
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SECRET

PAGE 02 BEIRUT 07899 091657Z

FACING THE OTHER 19 DELEGATIONS, WHO WITH VARYING

INTENSITY WANTED ACCORD DIRECT AID TO PLO. DEBATE WENT ON FOR OVER FIVE HOURS AND TOWARD THE END MAALOUF SAID LEBANESE DEL LET IT BE KNOWN THAT THEY WOULD NOT SIGN ANY AGREEMENT SANCTIONING DIRECT AID TO PLO IN LEBANON. AT THIS POINT SEC GEN RIYAD AND EGYPTIAN CHIEF OF STAFF AL-GAMASY BEGAN SEEKING COMPROMISE AND CAME UP WITH LANGUAGE PRACTICALLY SAME AS THAT ADOPTED AT ALGIERS SUMMIT. THIS WAS OF COURSE ACCEPTED BY GOL DEL FOR IT HAD BEEN APPROVED BY PRESIDENT FRANGIE AT ALGIERS.

2. MAALOUF ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT PLO REPS ON TWO OCCASIONS IN CAIRO SOLEMNLY PROMISED NOT TO ENGAGE IN RAIDS FROM LEBANESE TERRITORY. HE CONSIDERS THESE ASSURANCES ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL BENEFITS ACHIEVED IN CAIRO AND HAS CAREFULLY PRESERVED TRANSCRIPTS OF THEIR STATEMENTS. HE ALSO NOTED THAT WHILE SOME REPS RECOMMENDED RENEWAL OIL EMBARGO HE, MAALOUF, AT REQUEST OF SAUDI REP, ARGUED THAT SUCH DRASTIC ACTIONS SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT BE UNDERTAKEN. SAUDI REP SUBSEQUENTLY SUPPORTED MAALOUF ON THIS POINT.

3. RE INDIVIDUAL DELEGATIONS MAALOUF EMPHASIZED LEADERSHIP NOW EXERCISED WITHIN ARAB LEAGUE BY EGYPT AND SYRIA, DUE TO THEIR OCTOBER WAR ROLE. HE SAID THIS LEADERSHIP ALSO SHARED BY SAUDI ARABIA WHOSE MONARCH HAD DARED USE OIL WEAPON. ALGERIA'S INFLUENCE HE DESCRIBED AS NEARLY EQUAL, DUE NOT ONLY TO ITS WEALTH, BUT ALSO TO ITS "PATH OF MARTYRDOM" IN GAINING ITS INDEPENDENCE. MAALOUF DESCRIBED THESE FOUR COUNTRIES AS HAVING PLACED THEIR FAITH IN US EFFORTS TOWARD PEACE AND THEREFORE ABLE TO EXERCISE STRONG MODERATING INFLUENCES. JORDAN, ACCORDING TO MAALOUF, WAS RELATIVELY ISOLATED AT ADC MEETING AND PLAYED AN "INDIVIDUALISTIC" ROLE. HE COMMENTED, HOWEVER, THAT IT IS APPARENT THAT BOTH PRESIDENTS SADAT AND ASSAD ARE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ADVICE GIVEN BY PRESIDENT NIXON, ENDEAVORING TO BRING HUSSEIN BACK INTO THE ARAB FAMILY AND CONVINCE HIM THAT HE MUST MAKE TERRITORIAL AND OTHER CONCESSIONS FAVORABLE TO THE PALESTINIANS. MAALOUF CONFIRMED DIB'S VIEWS

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SECRET

PAGE 03 BEIRUT 07899 091657Z

RE SARG DEL, POINTING OUT THAT FON MIN KHADDAM INTERVENED ON GOL'S BEHALF REPEATEDLY IN CAIRO.

4. MAALOUF MENTIONED SEVERAL TIMES THE JULY 3 US-SOVIET COMMUNIQUE WHICH WAS CARRIED IN THE EGYPTIAN PRESS ONLY AT THE END OF THE ADC MEETING BUT WHICH, DUE TO FACT THAT IT RECOGNIZED LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, WAS WIDELY NOTED THERE. EVEN BEFORE THE

COMMUNIQUE APPEARED MAALOUF IN CORRIDOR NEGOTIATIONS
CITED FACT THAT U.S. PRESIDENT WAS DISCUSSING MIDDLE
EAST WITH BREZHNEV AS REASON FOR AVOIDING HASTY OR
RASH DECISIONS AT ADC.

5. MAALOUF, LIKE DIB, REPEATEDLY EMPHASIZED SENSITIVITY
OF FOREGOING AND STATED IT MUST REPEAT MUST BE HELD
IN GREATEST CONFIDENCE AND STRICTLY FOR U.S. EYES ONLY.
GODLEY

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NNN

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